

Message

From: Colwell, William C [ColwellW@gao.gov]
Sent: 7/19/2022 8:55:36 PM
To: Sleasman, Katherine [Sleasman.Katherine@epa.gov]; Weiner, Janet [Weiner.Janet@epa.gov]
CC: raynesd@gao.gov; Jennifer Gould [gouldj@gao.gov]; Scott, Monica R [ScottMR@gao.gov]; DeBell, Kevin [debell.kevin@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Quick note re: info requests for GAO Toxic Chemicals Management (105728)
Attachments: FY22_ALL_STAFF-#799565-v1-105728_-_REQUESTS__CONSOLIDATED_LIST_OF_OUTSTANDING_INFORMATION_REQUESTS.DOCX

Katherine and Janet,

As you requested, please find attached a consolidated list of all outstanding information requests for our engagement (105728). We have proposed removing a few items that are no longer needed (see comment boxes) and added our follow-up request from the recent workforce planning interview.

Please let me know if you have any additional concerns.

Respectfully,
Bill

From: Sleasman, Katherine <Sleasman.Katherine@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:32 PM
To: Weiner, Janet <Weiner.Janet@epa.gov>; Colwell, William C <ColwellW@gao.gov>
Cc: Raynes, Diane B <RaynesD@gao.gov>; Gould, Jennifer E <GouldJ@gao.gov>; Scott, Monica R <ScottMR@gao.gov>; DeBell, Kevin <debell.kevin@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Quick note re: info requests for GAO Toxic Chemicals Management (105728)

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Thank you Bill!

For question set #5 we may be a day or two late. Our policy office would like to review our response before we send it to you regarding the Agency's ADP process.

Thanks for your understanding.

-Katherine Sleasman
(202) 566-1204

From: Weiner, Janet <Weiner.Janet@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:58 PM
To: Colwell, William C <ColwellW@gao.gov>
Cc: raynesd@gao.gov; Jennifer Gould <gouldj@gao.gov>; Scott, Monica R <ScottMR@gao.gov>; DeBell, Kevin <debell.kevin@epa.gov>; Sleasman, Katherine <Sleasman.Katherine@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Quick note re: info requests for GAO Toxic Chemicals Management (105728)

That would be a real help, thank you!

Janet LaFiandra Weiner, Esq.

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and
Chair, OCSPP Special Emphasis Program Council
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From: Colwell, William C <ColwellW@gao.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:53 PM
To: Weiner, Janet <Weiner.Janet@epa.gov>
Cc: raynesd@gao.gov; Jennifer Gould <gouldj@gao.gov>; Scott, Monica R <ScottMR@gao.gov>; DeBell, Kevin <debell.kevin@epa.gov>; Sleasman, Katherine <Sleasman.Katherine@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Quick note re: info requests for GAO Toxic Chemicals Management (105728)

Janet,

Thank you for reaching out. I will compile a consolidated document that includes all outstanding requests, along with their associated due dates.

Will this help to address the concerns you noted?

Respectfully,
Bill

From: Weiner, Janet <Weiner.Janet@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 12:49 PM
To: Colwell, William C <ColwellW@gao.gov>
Cc: Raynes, Diane B <RaynesD@gao.gov>; Gould, Jennifer E <GouldJ@gao.gov>; Scott, Monica R <ScottMR@gao.gov>; DeBell, Kevin <debell.kevin@epa.gov>; Sleasman, Katherine <Sleasman.Katherine@epa.gov>
Subject: Quick note re: info requests for GAO Toxic Chemicals Management (105728)

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Bill,

I am wondering if there is perhaps a way to consolidate/streamline the information requests to make tracking easier on the audit and TSCA staff?

Our folks are doing their noble best, but I personally am finding it hard to keep track of new requests, due dates and completed responses.

I would welcome ideas from GAO on how we can work together to make fulfilling your information needs less stressful on our staff and more efficient for us all.

Janet

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From: Colwell, William C <ColwellW@gao.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 2:12 PM

To: Sleasman, Katherine <Sleasman.Katherine@epa.gov>

Cc: Weiner, Janet <Weiner.Janet@epa.gov>; raynesd@gao.gov; Jennifer Gould <gouldj@gao.gov>; Scott, Monica R <ScottMR@gao.gov>

Subject: GAO Information Request No. 6: EPA Toxic Chemicals Management (105728)

Katherine,

Thank you for facilitating today's meeting. Please find below Information Request No. 6, which reflects issues we discussed:

1. Please provide a note for "Table 4: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Review Times and Determinations for New Chemical Review Cases, Calendar Years 2016-2022" that clarifies EPA determination categories.
2. EPA noted that regulations in 40 CFR 720.75(b) allow for a company to voluntarily suspend the statutory 90-day review period. "Because EPA obtains voluntary suspensions on all cases the percentage of reviews completed within the statutory deadline is 100 percent."
 - a. Please clarify the NCR data field(s) that EPA uses to monitor voluntary suspensions.
 - b. Please clarify how EPA populates the data field(s) (e.g., drop-down box, radio button, check-box, free text, etc.)
 - c. Please clarify data elements that indicate EPA successfully populated/documented a voluntary suspension.
 - d. Please generate an NCR data analysis report that demonstrates the percentage of new chemical review cases that EPA completed in "91 days or more" for which data elements indicate a voluntary suspension is successfully populated/documented (calendar years 2016-2022).
3. Please provide examples of planned or implemented steps to address factors that cause delays in new chemical review cases. Examples may include workforce planning improvements (e.g., recruitment and training), information technology investments, process improvements (e.g., developing guidance documents and standard operating procedures).

We would appreciate receiving EPA's written response by **August 1, 2022**. Please let me know if this is not feasible. We are also happy to chat about our goals/needs for items 2(a)-2(d), which we assume will be based on the dataset used to generate the new chemical case review counts that EPA previously provided.

Very respectfully,
Bill

William Colwell | Senior Analyst | Natural Resources & Environment
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